

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCS-03 L-03 DRC-01 RSC-01 /034 W

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2228

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: UR CASC (GLAD, JOHN PETER)

SUBJECT: US-SOVIET MARRIAGE CASE: DR. JOHN GLAD

FOR EUR/SOV

1. CONSOFF CALLED ON DEPUTY CHEF (REZNICHENKO) MFA CONSULAR ADMINISTRATION SEPTEMBER 20 TO REQUEST MFA ASSISTANCE IN ARRANGING SOVIET MARRIAGE BETWEEN US TOURIST DR. JOHN GLAD AND SOVIET CITIZEN LARA

ROMANOVA OF SARATOV. GLAD HAD APPEALED TO EMBASSY FOR ASSISTANCE AFTER SOVIET AUTHORITIES DENIED HIM PERMISSION TO TRAVEL TO SARATOV (CLOSED CITY) TO MARRY ROMANOVA, WHOM HE HAS KNOWN SINCE STUDY AT MOSCOW STATE UNIVERSITY 1968/69. WHEN CONSOFF ASKED MOSCOW ZAGS AUGUST 31 IF IT WOULD BE WILLING TO MARRY COUPLE IN VIEW SARATOV'S STATUS, OFFICIAL (WHO DECLINED GIVE NAME) REFUSED, CITING LAW TO EFFECT THAT MARRIAGE IN THIS CASE CAN ONLY TAKE PLACE AT ROMANOVA'S PLACE OF RESIDENCE (ARTICLE 150 RSFSR CODE ON MARRIAGE).

2. CONSOFF HANDED OVER NOTE (BEING POUCHED) TO REZNICHENKO REQUESTING MFA FACILITATE MARRIAGE ARRANGEMENTS AT SARATOV, MOSCOW OR, AS THIRD ALTERNATIVE, ALLOW ROMANOVA'S TRAVEL TO NEIGHBORING COUNTRY OR UNITED STATES WHERE MARRIAGE COULD TAKE PLACE. NOTE OBSERVED THAT IT WOULD BE UNJUST AND INCONSISTENT WITH SOVIET AND INTERNATIONAL LAW IF GLAD IS DENIED RIGHT TO MARRY SOLELY BECAUSE HE IS FOREIGNER AND MARRIAGE AND SOVIET PROVISIONS GUARANTEEING EQUAL TREATMENT OF FOREIGNERS WITH SOVIET CITIZENS IN CIVIL RIGHTS AREA WERE ALSO CITED.

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3. REZNICHENKO (AND NECHEV WHO SAT IN) SEEMED IMPRESSED WITH ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF ALLOWING MARRIAGE AND SAID THEY WOULD LOOK INTO QUESTION.

4. EMBASSY WILL INFORM GLAD, WHO RESIDES AT 5550 DORCHESTER, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60637 (TELEPHONE 312 947 9757) OF EMBASSY REPRESENTATION. BEFORE LEAVING MOSCOW, GLAD TOLD CONSOFF HE WOULD GENERATE WHATEVER PRESSURES NECESSARY TO FORCE SOVIET AUTHORITIES ACCEDE TO PROPOSED MARRIAGE.

DECON 12/31/77

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